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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/977,351	10/16/2001	Yoshinobu Ikeda	NIT-307	3978

7590

02/07/2006

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EXAMINER

HO, THOMAS M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2134

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/977,351	IKEDA, YOSHINOBU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas M. Ho	2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/31/05.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 and 27-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 and 27-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment of 10/31/05 has been received and entered.
2. Claims 1-25, 27-34 are pending.
3. Claims 26 and 35 have been canceled.

Response to Arguments

Applicant has argued (page 13, first paragraph):

None of claims 1, 10, 15 and 27 is anticipated by Shapiro, which is relied upon for disclosing first and second information processing devices and an access control device. However, the first information processing device of the present invention is connected to a local area network or intranet, while the web server of Shapiro is connected with the Internet. Therefore, the web server of Shapiro is not comparable to the first information processing device(Claims 1, 10 and 27) or the information distributing device claimed by Applicants. Further, Shapiro does not disclose providing access to a first information processor from a user on the Internet through a fire wall to allow access only by the second information processing device, as claimed by Applicants in claims 1 and 10.

The Examiner contends however that the web server of Shapiro is still connected with the local area network. It is true that Figure 1 shows the webserver connected to the Internet. However, that does not mean it is not connected to the local area network or intranet also. Figure 1 clearly shows the free flow of information between web server 64 and all the

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computers on the intranet. Furthermore, the final statement of the abstract states The proxy cache server stores and retrieves requested site information via the Internet to clients if authorized.

For this reason, the Examiner contends that the webserver of Shapiro is still connected with the rest of the entities on the network. Analogously, if a person A called up, via a telephone, person B to talk with them, one of ordinary skill in the art would consider the telephone lines of A and B to be connected, even though it remains true that person A is also connected with an operator, and various other telecommunication hubs and equipment. For this reason the Examiner finds Applicant's arguments unpersuasive.

Applicant has argued (page 13, 2nd paragraph – page 14, 1st paragraph):

Claim 18 sets forth a second information processing device communicating with a first information processing device connected to a local area network by way of an access control device. The memory section of the second information processing device has a copy of information held in the first information processing device and a receiving unit acquires a first rewrite information relating to the original information of the copy from the first information processing device. A control unit makes a second rewrite information relating to the copy and compares the second rewrite information with the acquired first rewrite information of the original. A transmit unit issues a transmit request of the original information when the first and second rewrite information are different. A comparison of the second rewrite information with the first rewrite information is also set forth in claim 21. In claim 30 the information distributing system

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sets forth a plurality of second information processing devices connected to the first information processing device, which is connected to a local area network by way of an access control device. The memory section of the second information processing devices has a copy of information held in the first information processing device. A communications unit acquires first rewrite information relating to a copy of this information held by the first information processor, and a control unit makes a second rewrite information relating to the copy of information possessed by the memory section and compares the second and first rewrite information. Shapiro does not disclose the claimed combination set forth in independent claims 18, 21, and 30. Further, reliance on the Krishnamurthy patent does not overcome the deficiencies with respect to the Shapiro patent.

Applicant's arguments appear to be a general allegation that Shapiro and Krishnamurthy do not disclose the claimed combinations set forth for claims 18, 21, and 30 without pointing to specific details. The addressing of these allegations is present in the rejection of the claims presented below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted

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on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3, 6-13, 15, 17, 20, 24-25, 27, 29, 33, 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shapiro, US patent 5991810.

In reference to claim 1:

Shapiro et al. (Column 2, lines 5-35) & (Figure 1) discloses an access control system comprising:

- a first information processing device connected to a local area network for holding information, at least one second information processing device connected to Internet, where the first information processing device is server that holds the HTTP request or website information, and where the second device is proxy cache server.
- An access control device for controlling access requests to said first information processing device from said Internet, where the access control device controlling requests to the first information device or server is the proxy cache server.
- Wherein said second information processing device possesses a copy of said information possessed by said first information processing device, where the

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second information processing device's copy of the server information is stored in the cache.

- Wherein said Internet connects with a third information processing device for requesting access to said information processing by said first information processing device, where the Internet is connected through the routes of the proxy server to the client which requests access to the information on the server.
- Wherein when access to information requested of said third information processing device, a copy of said information is possessed by said second information processing device, said second information processing device sends said copy of said information to said third information processing device, where the information stored on the proxy cache server is sent to the third processing device, the client.
- Among access requests to said first information processing device from said Internet, said access control device grants only access requests from said second information processing device, where the access control device in Shapiro is arranged in such a manner that only access requests from the second information processing device, the proxy cache server may access information to the main server, the first device.

In reference to claim 2:

Shapiro et al. (Column 2, lines 5-35) & (Figure 1) discloses an access control system according to claim 1, wherein access requests from said second information processing device are transmit requests for information possessed by said first information

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processing device, where the access requests are requests made by the proxy cache server for the websites stored on their original host servers.

In reference to claim 3:

Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & (Figure 1) discloses an access control system according to claim 2, wherein said second network connects with a third information processing device for requesting access to information possessed by the first information processing device; and wherein when access to information requested of said third information processing device is not possessed by said second information processing device, said second information processing device issues said transmit request to said first information processing device, where the third information processing device is a gateway client, which requests information from the first device, the website server, and when information is not contained by the second information device, the proxy cache server requests the information from the first device.

In reference to claim 6:

Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & (Figure 1) discloses an access control system according to claim 1, wherein said second network is further connected to a load dispersing device; Wherein when an access request is issued to said first information processing device from said third information processing device, said load dispersing allows access to one of said second information processing devices in response to said access request, where a proxy cache by definition is a load dispersing device, and where the access request is issued

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from the client (the third device), the proxy cache allows access to the information therein in response to it.

In reference to claim 7:

Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & (Figure 1) discloses an access control system according to claim 6, wherein said load dispersing device is a domain name server; wherein when an access request was made to said first information processing device, said load dispersing device sends one IP address of said second information processing device back to said third information processing device, where a domain name server or DNS server is understood in the art to be a server in which a request for a particular website by name can be mapped out in a table for its real numerical IP address, and where Shapiro discloses such functionality. (Column 5, lines 28-35)

In reference to claim 8:

Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & (Figure 1) discloses an access control system according to claim 1, wherein said first network is a local area network, and said second network is Internet, where the local area network is the intranet, and the second network is the Internet, and all the computers are connected with one another as depicted in figure 1.

In reference to claim 9:

Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & (Figure 1) discloses an access control system according to claim 1, wherein said first information processing device is a WWW server; and

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Wherein said access control device approves the access request when the access request from said second information processing device is an HTTP protocol.

In reference to claim 10:

Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & Figure 1 discloses an access control device for controlling access to a first information processing device possessing information and connected to a local area network, from at least one second information processing device connected to Internet and having copies of said information possessed by said first information processing device, where the access control device is the proxy server, which controls access to first information processing device, the main server, which is connected through the proxy control device to a local area network, and where such proxy or second information processing device is both connected to the Internet and stores a copy of said information in its cache.

said access control device comprising:

- Receiving unit which receives an access request from said Internet for said first information processing device, where the client makes the access request for the site as a client connecting through the Internet for the information on the webserver through the proxy.
- A control unit for checking transmit sources for said received access request, and approving access to said first information processing device only when said transmit source of said access request is said second information processing

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device, where the access control device in Shapiro is arranged in such a manner that only access requests from the second information processing device, the proxy cache server may access information to the main server, the first device.

In reference to claim 15:

Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & Figure 1 discloses an information distributing device for holding information and connected to a local area network, comprising:

- Control unit to create rewritten information from said information, where the control unit to create rewritten information from said information is the web browser which creates rewritten information or parsed HTML for a website display from its original HTML textual data which is the said information.
- Communications unit for communicating with an access control device for controlling access to said local area network from the Internet, where the communications unit is the proxy server, and the access control device is the access control component or software including policies of the proxy server.
- Wherein said communications unit receives an access request for information from an information processing device connected to said Internet and, if possessing a copy of said information, sends information rewritten by said control unit, where the communications unit is the proxy server, and the information processing device is the server containing the website info.

In reference to claim 17:

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Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & (Figure 1) discloses an information distributing device according to claim 15, wherein said information distributing device is a WWW server, and said access control device is a firewall between the Internet and said local area network.

In reference to claim 27:

Shapiro (Column 2, lines 5-35) & Figure 1 discloses a second information processing device for communicating with a first information processing device, which connects to a local area network by way of an access control device for controlling connections with said local area network and Internet, said information processing device connecting to said Internet and comprising:

- A memory section for storing a copy of information held in said first information processing device, where the memory section is the cache of the proxy server, where the cache stores a copy of the website information of the webserver or first information processing device (Figure 1, Item 54)
- A communications unit for receiving a connection request from another said second information processing device connecting to said Internet, and acquiring information from said first information processing device when said information of the connection request is not in said memory section, where the communications unit is the network adaptor communications unit of the proxy and the webserver (Items 56, 60), and where the request from the proxy much pass through this communication hardware, and where the information is retrieved from the webserver when the information does not reside in the cache.

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- A control section to calculate rewrite information of said acquired information, where the control section is the section of the proxy server that determines whether the acquired information from the webserver is to be rewritten into the cache.
- Wherein said communications unit sends said calculated rewrite information to another said second information processing device, where the data passes from the communications unit, the communication line and the proxy network adaptor, to the proxy server itself.

Claims 11, 20, 25, 29, 34 are substantially similar to the elements of claim 9 and is rejected for the same reasons.

Claims 12 and 13 are substantially similar to the elements of the invention as set forth by claim 2 and are rejected for the same reasons.

Claims 24, 33 are rejected for the same reasons as claim 8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 4,5, 14, 16, 18-19, 21-23, 28, 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shapiro, US patent 5991810 and Krishnamurthy et al., US patent 6578113.

In reference to claim 4:

Shapiro fails to explicitly disclose an access control system according to claim 2, wherein said second information processing device acquires information relating to changes in information held by the first information processing device and issues said transmit request when changes to said information have been made.

Shapiro does disclose that the cache may be refreshed when the HTTP request or web page has a more recent version. (Column 6, lines 5-12) As previously stated, the second information processing device is held to be the proxy cache, the first information processing device is held to be the website server.

Krishnamurthy et al. (Figures 2 & 3) discloses a method wherein said second information processing device acquires information relating to changes in information held by the first information processing device and issues said transmit request when changes to said information have been made, where the transmit request is made (Figure 3, Items 305, 306, 307) when the cached data is currently held to be invalid. (Figure 2).

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Krishnamurthy et al. (Column 2, lines 43-45) teaches that it would be beneficial to provide stronger cache coherency.

Similarly, Shapiro (Column 6, lines 5-12) teaches changing the expired website data helps to ensure that the most current webpage data is stored in the block [cache] and that the block is not cluttered with infrequently accessed data.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply the cache updating/validation mechanism of Krishnamurthy et al. as the updating mechanism of Shapiro in order to achieve the benefit of cache coherency and to ensure the most current web page data is stored in the block.

In reference to claim 5:

Krishnamurthy et al. (Figures 2 & 3) discloses an access control system according to claim 4, wherein information relating to changes in information held by said first information processing device is a first check code relating to said information and said second information processing device calculates a second check code for a copy of information on said second information processing device, and compares said first check code with said second check code and determines whether or not changes were made in information held in said first information processing device, where the information relating to the changes in information held by both the first and second information

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processing devices is a check code of validity or freshness. (Figure 2) & (Column 2, lines 22-42)

In reference to claim 14:

Shapiro and Krishnamurthy et al. as previously combined, discloses an access control device according to claim 12, wherein said access request sent by said control unit is a transmit request for a check code for information held by said first information processing device, where the check code is the code for validity or freshness regarding the website information, the transmit request is the reading of the validity data.

Krishnamurthy et al. (Column 4, lines 22-42) & (Figures 2 & 3)

In reference to claim 18:

Shapiro and Krishnamurthy et al. as previously combined, discloses a second information processing device for communicating with a first information processing device connecting to a local area network by way of an access control device for controlling connections with said local area network and Internet and said second information processing device, comprising:

- A memory section having a copy of information held in said first information processing device. Shapiro (Figure 1, "Website Storage") & (Figure 1, other memory elements)
- A receiving unit to acquire a first rewrite information relating to original information of said information copy from said first information processing

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device. Shapiro (Column 6, lines 5-12) & (Figure 1, “network adaptors”) & Krishnamurthy et al. (Figure 3)

- A control unit for making a second rewrite information relating to said copy and for comparing said second rewrite information with acquired first rewrite information of said original information, where the control unit compares the validity to see if the information copy is still valid. Krishnamurthy et al. (Figures 2& 3)
- A transmit unit for issuing a transmit request of said original information when said first and second rewrite information are different, where the transmit unit transmits a request for the original information when the information is denoted as invalid, indicating the information is different. (Figure 3, Item 303)

Claims 16, 19, 23, 28, 32 are substantially similar to claim 5 and is rejected for the same reasons.

Claims 30, 31, 21 and 22 are substantially similar to the elements of claim 18 and are rejected for the same reasons.

Conclusion

9. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of the final action and the advisory action is not mailed under after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(A) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Thomas M Ho whose telephone number is (571)272-3835. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory A. Morse can be reached on (571)272-3838.

The Examiner may also be reached through email through Thomas.Ho6@uspto.gov

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571)272-2100.

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TMH

February 3rd, 2006.


EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER